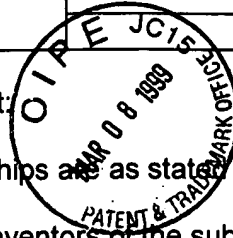


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DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY Patent Application Filed	Attorney's Docket Number E-826 Page 1 of 2								
<p>As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:</p> <p>our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our names;</p> <p>we believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled IMPROVED METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE REMOTE INSPECTION OF POSTAGE METERS described and claimed in a patent application filed on December 24, 1998 and assigned the serial number 09/220,830 in the United States Patent And Trademark Office;</p> <p>we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims;</p> <p>we acknowledge our duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, section 1.56; and</p> <p>we do not know and do not believe the invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application, that the invention was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on any application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application, and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by us or our legal representatives or assigns.</p> <p>We hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith;</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="422 1281 1234 1428"><tbody><tr><td>Steven J. Shapiro</td><td>Reg. No. 35,677</td></tr><tr><td>Melvin J. Scolnick</td><td>Reg. No. 25,233</td></tr><tr><td>David E. Pitchenik</td><td>Reg. No. 24,020</td></tr><tr><td>Robert E. Meyer</td><td>Reg. No. 26,307</td></tr></tbody></table>		Steven J. Shapiro	Reg. No. 35,677	Melvin J. Scolnick	Reg. No. 25,233	David E. Pitchenik	Reg. No. 24,020	Robert E. Meyer	Reg. No. 26,307
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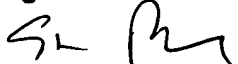
Address all telephone calls to Steven J. Shapiro
at telephone No.: (203) 924-3880.

Address all correspondence to:

Steven J. Shapiro
Pitney Bowes Inc.
Intellectual Property and
Technology Law Department
35 Waterview Drive
P.O. Box 3000
Shelton, CT 06484

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name	Last Sisson	First Robert	Middle W.	
Residence & Citizenship	City Shelton	State CT	Citizenship US	
Post Office Address	Street Address 31 Country Place	City Shelton	State CT	Zip Code 06484
Signature of Inventor 			Date 2/17/1999	

FULL NAME	Last Pauly	First Steven	Middle J.	
Residence & Citizenship	City New Milford	State CT	Citizenship US	
Post Office Address	Street Address 10 Surrey Lane	City New Milford	State CT	Zip Code 06776
Signature of Inventor 			Date 2/19/1999	